

drug treatment saving \$10 in later medical costs or social costs.

MYTH NO. 6: HOUSING ASSISTANCE IS WIDELY AVAILABLE TO POOR PEOPLE

Truth: There is often at least a two-year waiting list for public or subsidized housing in Marion County if the housing unit is even accepting applications, and these existing programs are at risk of reduction or elimination by the current Congress. Subsidized housing is vital to poor people because the federal government's recommendation that people pay 30 percent of their income on housing and utilities is an otherwise impossible goal for most AFDC recipients. For example, the 1993 fair market value for an Indianapolis two-bedroom apartment is \$523, which represents 156 percent of the monthly income of a three-person family receiving AFDC.

In fact, most poor people in Indianapolis pay over 50 percent of their income in housing costs. Some of the hypocrisy of the anti-welfare rhetoric based on allegations of budget-busting is demonstrated by the government's commitment to providing significant housing benefits for the decidedly non-poor. For every dollar spent by the federal government on low-income housing assistance, \$3 of housing assistance is provided to high-income persons (incomes in the top 20 percent) through homeowner tax deductions.

MYTH NO. 7: PRIVATE CHARITIES CAN REPLACE GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS TO HELP THE POOR

Truth: Private charitable programs currently spend only about 1 percent as much as state and federal governments on social services, and many of those private services are provided by agencies heavily dependent on government funds. The major charitable providers of social services, including Salvation Army, Catholic Charities USA and Feed the Children, have taken the position that government has a necessary role in helping the poor. Leaders of these organizations predict disastrous consequences for the poor if the government significantly reduces its role in providing a social safety net.

MYTH NO. 8: THE UNITED STATES PROVIDES THE OPPORTUNITY FOR PERSONS IN POVERTY TO SIMPLY PULL THEMSELVES UP INTO THE MIDDLE CLASS

Truth: For most poor people, 1995 America is not the land of opportunity. The gap between the rich and poor in our society is the largest of any industrialized nation, and the percentage of poor people who are able to move out of poverty has steadily decreased in the last several decades. Even though current efforts to solve the United States' poverty problem focus on reducing or eliminating government programs, it is the more generous and pervasive family benefit programs that are generally cited as the source of the greater amount of class mobility and lower amount of poverty in comparable countries.

Dire consequences are predicted as a result of changes to our current welfare system, with poverty experts and service providers predicting everything from widespread rioting to a future where children sleeping on sidewalk heating grates will be a common sight. The lesson to be taken from exposing the fallacy of the myths that motivated these changes is that the very survival of our country's poor families is put at risk based on misconceptions and prejudices, rather than clear-eyed examination of the effectiveness of the current welfare programs. While it may not yet be clear what the consequences of changing welfare will have for the poor and for the rest of us, it is clear that we have eliminated "welfare as we know it" when we did not really "know it" in the first place.

GREAT MILITARY FACILITIES IN FLORIDA

HON. TILLIE K. FOWLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 10, 1995

Mrs. FOWLER. Mr. Speaker, let me begin by saying that I take great pride in all the fine military installations we have in Florida. That said, however, I must admit that I have a special place in my heart for the facilities in my own district and the surrounding communities. These facilities are all truly outstanding, and they just keep getting better.

I learned yesterday afternoon that both Naval Station Mayport and the Mayport-based Supervisor of Shipbuilding, Conversion and Repair Jacksonville—SUPSHIP Jacksonville—have been selected as finalists for the President's Quality Award. This prestigious award is the Federal equivalent of the private sector's Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award for excellence in quality management.

While there are literally thousands of eligible candidates in the Federal Government, only 10 finalists are chosen for this award each year. This year, two of them are from my district—and this is Mayport's second year in a row as a finalist.

I think my colleagues will all agree with me that this is an extraordinary achievement. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate Capt. Scott Cantfil, the CO of Mayport, and Capt. Richard T. Holmes, the CO of SUPSHIP Jacksonville, on their fine leadership. Even more importantly, though, I want to commend the men and women of Mayport and SUPSHIP—both military and civilian—who work so hard every day to achieve such a high standard of excellence. As a friend, a neighbor, and a longtime admirer, I am very, very proud of them all.

Mr. Speaker, these individuals do honor to the Navy, the U.S. Government, and the State of Florida, and it is my honor to represent them in the U.S. Congress.

U.S.S. "SANTEE" VETERANS

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 10, 1995

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the gallant men of the U.S.S. *Santee* who served during World War II.

Between 1942–45, the U.S.S. *Santee* served in several war zones and took part in numerous combat missions. Operating in the most advanced areas, the U.S.S. *Santee* and her attached air squadron frequently struck enemy targets while themselves under prolonged air attack. During the historic battle for Leyte Gulf, the *Santee* and her crew withstood successively, the first suicide plane attack of the war and a torpedo hit in her side while continuing flight operations and manning her anti-aircraft guns.

The U.S.S. *Santee* and her crew served the people of the United States with valor and honor throughout World War II. The carrier and her courageous crew compiled an impressive combat record during her service in the battle theaters of the world. Their valiant ac-

tion against enemy forces was crucial in our victory over the tyrannical Axis forces.

Each of us is indebted to these gallant men for their extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty.

VETERANS DAY

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 10, 1995

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of our country's veterans. On Saturday, November 11, we will celebrate yet another Armistice Day, or as it is more commonly called today Veterans Day. This is a day when every American should stand together in remembrance, reflection, and gratitude to the men and women who have fought for our freedom, a freedom which has endured only through the enormous sacrifice of the veterans we remember today.

More than 1 million veterans did not return to the freedom of America. Countless other millions returned wounded in body or in spirit. To those soldiers and their families, I pledge today, that we will never forget your mighty tribute to our country.

And on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month we will stand and salute the flag which our veterans carried with them to the wars, and which serves as a symbol of our national pride. At that moment, when the sirens sound, we must reflect on what kind of America we might live in today if not for the service of those who we honor each year on Armistice Day.

Mr. Speaker, I include the following for the RECORD.

VETERANS DAY, 1995

The threat to freedom and peace is no less sinister than in war. Our country's future must not go by default. The veteran must not fail the Nation's trust.—General Douglas MacArthur

Veterans Day marks the final day of the closing ceremonies of the 50th Anniversary of World War II. Although this day marks the conclusion of the official end of commemorations, we must never forget to honor the brave men and women who served in the war that changed our future forever.

Veterans Day provides us with an opportunity to remember and to acknowledge the sacrifice of men and women who have served their country in the Armed Forces of the United States. It is not a day of sadness, but is in the truest sense, a day of reflection; a day of commemoration; a day of honor; a day of celebration.

Veterans Day allows us to celebrate victory and the ultimate peace achieved on a myriad of battlefields around the world. Peace and victory have been earned with the blood of Americans who sacrificed their lives to preserve freedom and democracy. As terrible as that sacrifice is, nonetheless, it is the most divine of all human sentiments and the unconditional moral evolution of mankind.

Today, freedom enjoyed by us all is directly due to the sacrifice made by the American soldier, sailor, airman and Marine who was willing to fight and die for freedom.

He has engraved his imprint upon the souls of his countrymen. He has molded his statue in the hearts of all Americans. He has erected his monument in the memories of his comrades. His legacy has provided Americans with the highest example of patriotism.

His testimonial has provided posterity with the foremost lessons of liberty and freedom. His recollection belongs to us by virtue of his achievements. His memorial belongs to the ages.

Our estimation of him was formed on the battlefields around the world and has never changed. We regard him today as we always have—our nation's enduring hero. He has written his own history in the annals of war in the blood of his enemy. The glory of his name is the legacy of every freedom loving man or woman who has ever lived or died on American soil.

We do not know the parable of his life. We do, however, know the nobility, the glory, and the significance of his death.

Men and women who have served their country in war need not be reminded of the high price of freedom. They, more than most, understand that freedom earned is always worth the price paid. That is our birthright; the legacy of America. That birthright, that legacy, and that heritage must never be taken for granted. The more difficult the struggle, the more glorious the victory.

Today, children must be taught the value of freedom and at what price their freedom was earned. They must be infused with the singular pride and privilege of being an American, and must be taught the deep sense of duty, honor and conviction conferred upon those of us fortunate enough to live in a free country.

Throughout the history of the United States, succeeding generations of Americans have always been inspired by the deeds, by the valor, and by the sacrifices made by American servicemen who served before them—giants in life and in death. Veterans Day is a gathering of generations, and a gathering of giants, and is the one day that solidifies generations of Americans.

On Veterans Day, a torch is passed from one generation to the other, and empowers us all to recollect and to express our gratitude for those who have served in wars past. The torch is subsequently passed along to our children and to our grandchildren, and burns brightly within the spirit and the soul of men and women destined to uphold the courageous tradition of American servicemen—patriots all who honorably served their country, not only in World War II, but to those who served in Korea and Vietnam, and whose 50th Anniversary will soon be upon us.

The American spirit has always been resolute and cannot be deterred, and is the determination which fires our consciousness through any endeavor, through any ordeal, through any conflict.

Servicemen and women have always been our nation's guardians, and have always protected and defended the sacred traditions entrusted to us by the Constitution. To paraphrase Winston Churchill in honoring British airmen, never has so much been owed, by so many, to so few.

If history has taught us anything, it is that the American serviceman will bear any hardship, will overcome any obstacle, and will conquer any foe in their quest for liberty, justice, and freedom.

As we conclude the commemoration ceremonies of the 50th Anniversary of the end of the war, it is fitting that we pay homage and acknowledge the World War II generation for their contribution to our nation. In a true sense, this generation had a rendezvous with destiny.

KEN SARO-WIWA

HON. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 10, 1995

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I am shocked and gravely concerned about the outrageous death sentences handed down by the Nigerian military tribunal to Ken Saro-Wiwa and eight other Ogoni leaders.

The injustices committed by the Nigerian military dictatorship's special tribunal responsible for trying these men has been well documented by international human rights organizations and independent legal observers. This trial was conducted outside the regular court system and without consideration of the rights of the accused.

As cochairman of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus I have sent numerous letters to the Nigerian Government calling for justice in this case. This recent trial and verdict attests to the Nigerian Government's unwillingness to abide by international human right standards ensuring that their citizens are afforded due process. The environmental destruction and human rights abuse that has impacted the Ogoni people and their lands for more than 40 years must be stopped. If Ken Saro-Wiwa or any of the Ogoni leaders are executed, Congress will see to it that all ties with Nigeria, not only diplomatic, but all economic ties, are completely and permanently severed.

HONORING JOHN AND VIVIAN KING

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 10, 1995

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to John and Vivian King, two people who have been helping their community and the children in northern Virginia for many years.

John King did not start out to do anything special when he started walking his granddaughter to school. But one day her teacher asked him to help in class and he agreed. At that time he had no idea that he would end up creating and running the school's safety program, assisting the counselor with the drug awareness program, and recruiting grandparent volunteers.

When Belvedere Elementary School in Falls Church, was undergoing extensive construction and remodeling, the need for a comprehensive safety program was evident. In addition, the safety of children going to and from school had been an increasing problem. Mr. King developed a safety program for kindergarten through sixth grade. He did not just go into the classrooms and talk, he created lesson plans which involved role playing and skits. He also used posters, charts, and questionnaires.

The "Just Say No" program has been highly successful as well. Using carefully prepared lessons, poster contests, guest speakers, and field trips, Mr. King has impressed upon every student the importance of keeping away from drugs. His programs have been such a success that he has been asked to take them to other elementary schools in northern Virginia.

In addition to his work at the schools, Mr. King is very active in his church, where he is involved in CCD classes, and in the church's elementary school, where he helps with sex education classes and drug awareness classes.

During these many years of community involvement there has been one person who has been at John King's side is his wife of 50 years Vivian. Mrs. King has never been one to come into the spotlight, she prefers being behind the scenes. However, her acts of caring and kindness have never gone unnoticed. Mrs. King started making bookmarks for all of the children at Belvedere to encourage them to read. She was also ready with homemade cookies and cakes for special events. When Mr. King started the Red Ribbon program at Belvedere Elementary Mrs. King made sure that all of the ribbons had a pin fixed to them before being passed out to all of the children and teachers at school.

In addition to honoring their many years of community service, I know my colleagues join me in wishing John and Vivian a happy anniversary because the Kings celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on October 29, 1995. The Kings are the proud parents of six children: Gary, Greg, Pamela, Joseph and John (twins), and Michael, who passed away in 1984.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in honoring John and Vivian King for all of their contributions to the elementary schools and community in northern Virginia. It is this kind of civic involvement and volunteer spirit that makes northern Virginia a great place to live.

TRIBUTE TO ALPHONSE STROOBANTS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 10, 1995

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Al Stroobants for his dedication to serving his fellow citizens, both publicly through his professional career, and privately through the generous donation of \$3 million to his community hospital.

Mr. Stroobants is truly living the American dream. A victim of World War II, Mr. Stroobants was forced to flee his homeland of Belgium with his sister and his parents when it was invaded by Nazi Germans. Escaping through the war zone, he remembers to this day the bombs exploding around him, and the smell of death.

He came to America in 1956, with \$55 in his pocket, and an education that ended when he was 13 years old. In 1962, he founded his own company, Belgium Tool & Die, with \$3,500 and two apprentices.

By 1990, sales of the company, which he has since sold, were \$25 million and Mr. Stroobants was able to sell his product in 35 countries.

To complete the American dream, Mr. Stroobants was able to give back to the community which embraced him and his success; the \$3 million gift to the Lynchburg General Hospital. His gift will help save lives, and will ensure the region has a high level of cardiac care. This new center, the Stroobants Heart